

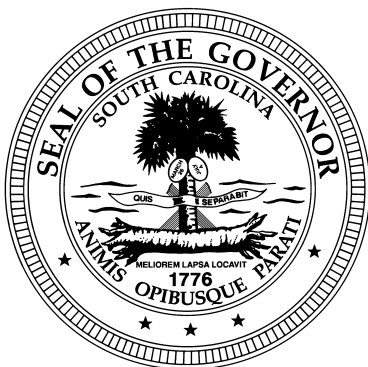
State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

- WHEREAS,** more than 500,000 South Carolina residents and families are impacted by severe lifelong disabilities, including autism, head injuries, spinal cord injuries, mental retardation and related disabilities, without regard to race, culture, geography, age, sex, or economic class; and
- WHEREAS,** people with lifelong disabilities are productive citizens, neighbors, and family members, deserving of respect and opportunities for economic self-sufficiency, independence, and personal growth; and
- WHEREAS,** South Carolinians with and without disabilities work together, play together, worship together, learn together, and grow together; and
- WHEREAS,** we owe a special debt of gratitude to the caregivers who selflessly provide physical, emotional, and spiritual support to our residents with disabilities and special needs; and
- WHEREAS,** the 2005 observance of Disabilities Awareness Month celebrates the successful partnership between people with and without disabilities as well as the increasing involvement of people with disabilities in education, employment, and community activities.
- NOW, THEREFORE, I,** Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim March 2005 as

DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to promote increased opportunities for people with disabilities, to recognize the many contributions made by people with disabilities in our communities, and to honor the dedication of the caregivers who bring hope and comfort to their fellow citizens.



A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Mark Sanford".

MARK SANFORD
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA